



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT
July 5, 2016**

The Special meeting Questions to Directors of the Common Council of the City of Middletown was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 6 p.m.

Present

Deputy Mayor Robert P. Santangelo and Council Members Eugene Nocera, Thomas J. Serra, Mary A. Bartolotta, Gerald E. Daley, Robert P. Santangelo, Carl R. Chisem, Robert Blanchard, Grady Faulkner, Sebastian N. Giuliano, Philip J. Pessina, Deborah Kleckowski and Linda Salafia, Sergeant-at-arms Police Chief William McKenna; and Common Council Clerk Marie O. Norwood.

Absent

Mayor Daniel T. Drew; Council Members Mary A. Bartolotta, Robert Blanchard, Grady L. Faulkner, Jr., Philip J. Pessina, Deborah A. Kleckowski, and Corporation Counsel Daniel B. Ryan.

Also Present

Public Works Director William Russo, Finance Director Carl Erlacher, Acting Director of IT Eldon Bailey, Water and Sewer Director Guy Russo, Parking Director Geen Thazhampallath, General Counsel Brig Smith, Chief of Police William McKenna, Acting Parks and Recreation Acting Director Deb Stanley, Tax Assessor Damon Braasch, Fire Chief Robert Kronenberger, Director of Communications Wayne Bartolotta, Planning, Conservation and Development Director Michiel Wackers, Office of Director Faith Jackson, Arts Coordinator Stephan Allison, City and Town Clerk Linda Bettencourt, Emergency Management Director George Dunn, Youth Services Coordinator Justin Carbonella, and ten members of the public.

1. Mayor calls meeting to order.

The deputy Mayor calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and leads the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Deputy Mayor requests the Clerk to read the call of the meeting; the call is declared a legal call and the meeting is declared a legal meeting.

2. Questions to Directors Opens

The Acting Chair opens questions to directors at 6:02 p.m.

Councilman Serra asks about transportation and he would like to know how much they saved by negotiating this. General Counsel states it should be the Director of Public Works who could respond, Bill Russo. Councilman Serra asks him the savings. Mr. Russo states I believe you are addressing the hauling contract. He states it goes back two years and at the end of the day for hauling, they will save \$55,000 to \$60,000 for the rate payers in the district. Councilman Serra asked the question and in 1992 he did this and finally there are savings from that. He states kudos, well done. Councilman Serra states the reinsurance reopener; he doesn't know what was saved and asked if someone can tell them the savings. Councilman Giuliano states the number for the first year is \$400,000; it is a three year deal and savings beyond that, they can't predict. Councilman Serra states between this and Sodexo, they (the Board of Education) saved \$750,000. Councilman Giuliano states from our end yes, but internally, he doesn't know.

Councilman Giuliano asks to address questions to General Counsel Brig Smith. He states there is housekeeping on the personnel rules; Attorney Smith responds it is housekeeping and it addresses the concerns raised by Councilwoman Bartolotta. If you look at your packet, page 40 of the draft rules, there is a change and he reads it and removes the word agreement to these benefits and the other change is a nomenclature to General Counsel Commission. Councilman Giuliano states he doesn't know if it goes to General Counsel Commission; it comes from Economic Development and asks if it went through the commission to see if it conformed to the City. It is a transfer of Funds. Is there something in our Code of Ordinances to enable that. Councilman Daley responds, it is about distressed property and before we consider buying them, we have to get a fair appraisal and environmental investigation to see what we are acquiring. It is two properties that the owners approached us and we feel they may have economic development potential. Councilman Giuliano this is not code enforcement. Councilman Daley replies no; it is basically property no longer utilized and they are older individuals and they want to remove that asset from their responsibility.

3. Questions to Directors Closes.

The Acting Chair, hearing no further questions from the Council closes Questions to Directors at 6:10 p.m.

4. Meeting adjourned.

Councilman Thomas J. Serra moves to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Sebastian N. Giuliano seconds the motion. The chair calls for the vote. It is 7 aye votes by Councilman Eugene Nocera, Councilman Thomas J. Serra, Councilman Gerald E. Daley, Councilman Robert P. Santangelo, Councilman Carl R. Chisem, Councilman Sebastian N. Giuliano, Councilwoman Linda Salafia; 0 nay votes by no one and 5 absent by Councilwoman Mary A. Bartolotta, Councilman Robert Blanchard, Councilman Grady L. Faulkner, Jr., Councilman Philip Pessina, Councilwoman Deborah A. Kleckowski. The Chair states the matter carried with 7 affirmative votes, 0 in opposition and 5 absent.

ATTEST:

**MARIE O. NORWOOD
COMMON COUNCIL CLERK**